



Illinois Ethics Matters

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Honesty, Integrity, Service

*A newsletter from the Office of Executive Inspector General for the Agencies
of the Illinois Governor*

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Recent News

The OEIG is pleased to announce the following additions to its staff:

- **Lisa McDonald** joined the OEIG as an administrative assistant in the Regional Transit Board Division, effective September 28, 2015.
- **Thomas Moriarty** joined the OEIG as a Special Investigator, effective October 5, 2015.
- **Kay Fischer** joined the OEIG as an Assistant Inspector General in the Chicago Division, effective October 13, 2015.

Three OEIG Investigations Made Public



• **In re: Ken Durst and the Department of Human Services (DHS) (Cases #13-02020 and #13-02606)** Federal law prohibits prison inmates from receiving benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The OEIG discovered that DHS improperly provided SNAP benefits to inmates in State and county facilities based on deficiencies of its computer screening process and its failure to request inmate lists from county facilities including Cook County. Over 5,000 State inmates potentially received SNAP benefits improperly. Based on this, the OEIG found that DHS and Bureau Chief Ken Durst violated the Public Aide Code. DHS updated its computer system, sought more information from county facilities, and reprimanded Mr. Durst.

- **In re: James Long (Case #13-01578)** The OEIG found that former Department of Human Services (DHS) employee James Long falsified information on travel vouchers and violated DHS policy by traveling to his home on State-compensated time. Mr. Long resigned during the investigation, and DHS placed a copy of the OEIG's report in his personnel file.
- **In re: Woith and Cook (Case #14-00800)** The OEIG found that two Illinois State University (ISU) employees improperly used their work email accounts to send political messages regarding the March 2014 primary election. Both employees were disciplined by ISU.

All three reports are available on the OEIG website, www.inspectorgeneral.illinois.gov

OEIG Issues Annual Report, Gift Guide

The OEIG has issued its FY2015 Annual Report. The Report summarizes the OEIG's activity during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, including:

- The OEIG received 2,721 complaints in FY2015, up from 2,521 FY2014.
- The OEIG initiated 95 investigations in FY2015, up from 85 in FY2014.
- The OEIG issued 29 founded reports, up from 24 in FY2014.
- The OEIG issued 290 revolving door determinations, up from 149 in FY2014.
- Public employees participated in 199,514 ethics training sessions overseen by the OEIG.

The report summarizes the 13 investigative reports published in FY2015, as well as six disciplinary and revolving door decisions issued by the Executive Ethics Commission.

The OEIG also issued its first Year-End Gift Guide. The Guide provides ethical guidance related to the exchange of gifts, a common occurrence this time of year.

Both the Annual Report and the Gift Guide are available on the OEIG website.